B-J's Family Favourite Recipes

Merle's Famous Stuffed Monkey

Angela Shire says: This was my mother's recipe. She did it so well, I think I only ever tried it myself a couple of times and now, of course, we are all on diets and watching our cholesterol!

Ingredients

250g/9 oz/generous 2 cups flour 175g/6 oz/1 $\frac{3}{4}$ sticks lightly salted butter 175g/6 oz/ $\frac{3}{4}$ cup muscavado sugar 1 egg $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp ground cinnamon

½ tsp ground cinnamor Pinch salt

Method

Merle Levy 1953

Sift flour with salt and cinnamon. Rub in butter. Add sugar and mix with a knife. Beat egg lightly and add enough to form a soft dough. Knead until smooth and divide in two Press one half into a 25cm (10 in) tart tin. Chill this, and the unused portion of dough in the fridge whilst assembling the filling.

Filling. Mix together 125g/4 oz/1 cup candied mixed peel with 125g/4oz/1 cup ground almonds. Melt $45g/1 \frac{1}{2}$ oz/4 tbsp butter and pour into peel mix. Add yolk of one egg. Mix well.

Spread the filling over the dough, Roll out the second potion and fit over the filling. Press the edges together firmly and brush the top with egg white.

Bake $400^{\circ}F/200^{\circ}C/Gas$ 6 (lower for fan ovens, I guess) for 30 minutes. Cool in the tin.

CAVEAT: don't be tempted to bake for anything longer than a couple of minutes extra because of the filling the usual testing methods don't work - bit like a Simmel Cake!

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Recipe No.